

# PROCLAMATION

## Office of the Mayor Bridgewater, New Jersey

**WHEREAS**, the United States Congress designated the third full week in March to be National Poison Prevention Week in 1961 and since then this week has helped to raise national awareness of the dangers of potentially poisonous medicines, household chemicals, and other substances; and

**WHEREAS**, poison centers across the country will focus the public's attention on identifying poisonous hazards at home as well as learning ways to prevent poisoning emergencies; and

**WHEREAS**, unintentional poisoning is the leading cause of unintentional injury death in New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately half of all reported poison exposures involve children under six years of age and the majority of poisoning deaths occur in adults ages 20 to 59; and

**WHEREAS**, every poisoning is preventable, from the youngest to the oldest, all people and even pets are at risk; and

**WHEREAS**, household items such as bleach and detergent pods, pesticides, cleaning products, windshield washer fluid, electronic smoking devices, liquid nicotine, and all tobacco products pose serious risk to small children and pets and should be kept out of reach; and

**WHEREAS**, the NJ Poison Information and Education System, a division of the Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health/NJ Medical School at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey provides free, expert medical advice, drug information, and poison prevention education to NJ residents through the 1800-222-1222 Poison Help Hotline; and

**WHEREAS**, all services are free, confidential, multilingual and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year; and

**WHEREAS**, poison centers save time and money by managing most cases at home, not requiring a visit to an emergency room; and

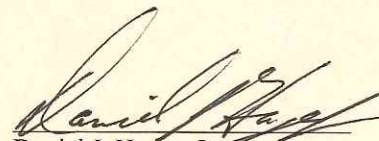
**WHEREAS**, NJ Poison Experts encourage all residents to program the Poison Help Line into home, office, and cell phones for rapid responses to prevent serious injury and save lives; and

**WHEREAS**, NJPIES is involved with the state's efforts in surveillance for clusters of poisonings and their sources in products, food and beverages, chemicals in the workplace and at home, environmental toxins, drugs and medicine, and animal and insect bites and stings; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Daniel J. Hayes, Jr., Mayor of Bridgewater Township, do hereby proclaim the week of March 15-21, 2015 as National Poison Prevention Week in New Jersey and encourage all citizens to pledge their commitment to ensuring the safety of themselves, their families, and their community.



DATED: March 2015

  
Daniel J. Hayes, Jr.  
Mayor